

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NASA/LI-15:BGGARNER
APPROVED BY OES/APT/SA:IMPIKUS
AMES/SEM:LCHAUGHNEY
JPL/826:WBROWN
NASA/ET4:NLMILDER
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ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE
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P P 210125Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
INFO AMES RESH CTR MOFFETT FIELD CA PRIORITY
JET PROPULSION LAB/ATTN 826 MR W BROWN PRIORITY

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AMES RESCH ATTN: SEM/MR HAUGHNEY

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR NASA AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) STATE 205239, AUGUST 26, 1977
(B) GUATEMALA 6326, OCTOBER 7, 1977
(C) MEXICO 14424, AUGUST 27, 1977
(D) STATE 251346, OCTOBER 19, 1977
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(E) MEXICO 17524, OCTOBER 20, 1977

1. SUCCESS OF LAST YEAR'S FLIGHT TO TIKAL, GUATEMALA
(REFTELS) IN UNCOVERING HITHERTO UNKNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SITES HAS PROMPTED NASA CONSIDER EXPANDED SERIES OF FLIGHTS
THIS SPRING TO GUATEMALA TO EXPLORE FURTHER USE OF AIRBORNE
IMAGING RADAR AS A REMOTE SENSING TOOL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL

EXPLORATIONS.

2. PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATOR FOR MISSION IS DR. WALTER E. BROWN, JR., OF NASA'S JET PROPULSION LABORATORY. HE ALONG WITH ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATOR RICHARD E. W. ADAMS FROM U. OF TEXAS WERE BOTH INVOLVED IN LAST YEAR'S FLIGHT.

3. AIRCRAFT IS NASA-OWNED AND MAINTAINED CV-990; REGISTRY NUMBER N712NA, CALL SIGN NASA 712.

4. AIRCRAFT WILL BE CONFIGURED WITH THREE JPL IMAGING RADAR SYSTEMS OPERATING IN THE L, X, AND VHF BANDWIDTHS; AIR SAMPLING EQUIPMENT FOR IN-SITU MEASUREMENTS OF ATMOSPHERIC TRACE GASES AND PARTICULATES; RC-9 AND KS-87 AERIAL CAMERAS, INFRARED RADIOMETER FOR MEASURING TEMPERATURE OF UNDERLYING SURFACE AND WATER VAPOR HYGRO-METER.

5. AIRCRAFT WOULD DEPART SAN ANTONIO TEXAS O/A APRIL 7, 1978 FLYING TO GUATEMALA CITY ON ROUTING TO EARNS DIRECT; BARTON DIRECT; ALARD VIA AIRWAY A-6; MERIDA MEXICO VIA AIRWAY UA-7; ALDO MEXICO VIA AIRWAY UA-7; AND GUATEMALA CITY VIA AIRWAY A-7. AIRCRAFT WOULD THEN STAGE TWO LOCAL FLIGHTS FROM GUATEMALA CITY O/A APRIL 10 AND 11 AND RETURN TO SAN ANTONIO O/A APRIL 13, REVERSING ROUTE DESCRIBED ABOVE.

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6. NO REPEAT NO SCIENTIFIC MEASUREMENTS WOULD BE TAKEN IN MEXICAN AIRSPACE ON TRANSIT FLIGHTS TO AND FROM GUATEMALA.

7. LOCAL FLIGHTS IN GUATEMALA WOULD BE DURING DAYTIME HOURS AT ALTITUDE OF APPROXIMATELY 24,000 FEET OVER AREAS NEAR TIKAL AND SW COAST.

8. REPRESENTATIVES OF GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY WOULD BE WELCOME TO VISIT AIRCRAFT AND DISCUSS PROGRAM WITH CV-990'S CREW AND EXPERIMENTERS. APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE COULD ALSO BE INCLUDED ON BOARD AIRCRAFT DURING LOCAL FLIGHTS, IF DESIRED.

9. PILOT WILL FILE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT PLANS.

10. COPIES OF DATA CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT UPON REQUEST. FYI: COPIES OF DATA FROM OCTOBER MISSION WILL BE HAND CARRIED BY DR. BROWN ON AIRCRAFT FOR EMBASSY TO PASS TO DIRECTOR INSTITUTO GEOGRAFICO NACIONAL AS REQUESTED. END FYI.

11. PLEASE OBTAIN NECESSARY CLEARANCES AND ADVISE.

12. FOR GUATEMALA: MR. EDWARD C. MITZ OF NORTHROP SERVICES, INC., PLANS TO MAKE ADVANCED TRIP TO GUATEMALA WEEK OF MARCH 20 TO ARRANGE LOGISTICS SUPPORT FOR AIRCRAFT AND CREW. PLEASE IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE EMBASSY LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE AIRCRAFT MISSION. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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